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PRESS RELEASE

Health Department Schedules H1N1 Vaccine Clinic for At Risk Groups

LaPorte, IN (November 4, 2009) - The LaPorte County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) announced today that the county Health Department will host a vaccine clinic for those who are in the "at-risk target groups" defined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Paul Trost, Incident Commander of the EOC and Administrator of the LaPorte County Health Department, said, "We understand the concerns voiced by parents of at-risk children, individuals who are on chemotherapy, dialysis or have had an organ transplant. It is our goal to get vaccine to these and other at-risk groups now that we have some significant amounts of vaccine coming in."

Where: Michigan City High School, Pahs Road

When: Saturday, November 7, 2009 from 10 a.m. thru 2.p.m. or for as long as vaccine stock is available

Who: The at-risk groups targeted by the CDC as those who are most likely to develop complications from the H1N1 virus are:

- Pregnant women and nursing mothers
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- Persons between the ages of 6 months and 24 years
- People ages 25-64 who are at higher risk because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems

Information:

- First come...first served. But please respect our choice to fast-track some residents with disabilities or special needs.
- Please respect our need to serve LaPorte County residents. Check with your local health department regarding clinics in the county where you live.
- Wear short sleeves
- Be prepared for a wait (bring water and snacks for young children, etc.)

"We expect that we will run out of vaccine at this clinic before we have vaccinated everyone in line," Trost said, "If you are in line when we run out of vaccine, you will be given a 'ticket' which you should keep and bring to the next clinic scheduled by the LaPorte County Health Department. The ticket will allow you to move towards the front of the line at the next clinic. We believe this will be a fair and equitable solution to a situation that can be frustrating for everyone.